

**STATE SENATOR • HANSEN CLARKE • 1ST DISTRICT**

# **Clarke Press Release**

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## **SEN. CLARKE TO ONCE AGAIN LEAD THE FIGHT AGAINST DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY BUDGET CUTS**

LANSING- State Sen. Hansen Clarke (D-Detroit) pledged today to once again lead the fight against another round of major budget cuts aimed at the Detroit Public Library (DPL) system. Sen. Clarke stated that he plans to introduce an amendment during the Senate Appropriations Committee meeting on Wednesday intended to reinstate \$1 million in state funding eliminated by the GOP-controlled legislature.

“This unfortunate action by House and Senate Republicans continues a troubling trend of declining state commitment for Michigan’s flagship library system,” said Clarke. “If these cuts are adopted, the state’s commitment to the Detroit Public Library will have gone from a high of \$8 million to zero. You can’t show any less of a commitment than zero.”

Governor Jennifer Granholm’s original budget proposal included approximately \$1 million in appropriations for the DPL. The House voted to reduce that appropriation by \$500,000. The Senate’s History, Arts and Libraries Subcommittee (HAL) then voted to eliminate the remaining funding. The Senate Appropriations Committee is scheduled to vote on adopting the HAL subcommittee’s recommendations on Wednesday.

“The Detroit Public Library system is an important resource for all of Michigan and houses priceless special collections that draw visitors from around the country,” said Clarke. “As one of our state’s great treasures, it deserves our support not our indifference.”

The Detroit Public Library is one of the nation’s ten largest library systems. Over one-third of the Detroit Public Library’s borrowers live outside the City of Detroit.

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